Pamage to Palam Trees in Andhra Pradesh

1833. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOROESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has rquested the Union Government to assist in controlling the new disease causing damage to palm trees etc; and

(b) the action taken by the Union Government on the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Central Government have not received and such request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Referring Patients to Private Nursing Homes

1834. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to refer the patients on waiting list for testing in hospitals to private nursing homes for sophisticated testings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including th criteria fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation of SC/ST Candidates in Medical Colleges

1835. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of quota reserved for SC/ST candidates for admission in medical college;

(b) the details of the candidates admitted under this quota during each of the last three years, medical college-wise;

(c) the details of the action taken/proposed to arrange coaching for SC/ST candidates for admission in medical college; and

(d) the details of the amount spent in the last three years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (d). The Central Government have prescribed the reservation percentage of 15% and 7.5 for admission of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students respectively (total - 22.5%) in the various medical colleges under its control. So far as the State Governments are concerned, the percentages of reservation vary depending upon the proportion of SC/STs in their total population. So far as the institutions under th control of the Central Government are concerned, the information regarding the total number of seats and the actual number of seats filled by candidates belonging to SC/ST during the last three years is given in the attached Statement. The Ministry of Welfare is the nodal Ministry in the Government of India regarding the welfare of SCs/STs. It has circulated a centrally sponsored. "Coaching and Allied Scheme" in 1989 to the States/UTs/Universities for providing assistance to the State Governments for arranging special coaching facilities for SC/ST candidates from low income bracket to prepare them for admission to medical and engineering courses. That Ministry had incurred an expenditure of Rs. 2.78 lakhs during 1989-90 and Rs. 3.46 lakhs during 1990-91 under the scheme.